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## ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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### **Commission Awarded Grant for Mass Media Campaign on Investor Awareness Campaign will Focus on Investment Education and Fraud Prevention**

(Phoenix) The Corporation Commission will launch a mass media campaign on investor awareness and fraud prevention thanks to a recent grant awarded by the Investor Protection Trust (IPT). The Commission's Securities Division will receive \$13,800 to promote the need for Arizona investors to verify investments and sellers before investing by contacting the Securities Division to "Ask & Check."

The Securities Division will kick off a six-week project using radio announcements targeting people over 45-years old. More than one-half of all Americans are invested in the securities markets making investor education and protection critical. The campaign will be statewide with a high focus on rural communities.

Seniors are often the target for investment fraud. The Securities Division has helpful information for seniors and their families on the Corporation Commission website at [azcc.gov](http://azcc.gov). You can call the Securities Division at (602) 542-4242 or toll free at 1-866-VERIFY-9 (1-866-837-4399) or go to [www.azinvestor.gov](http://www.azinvestor.gov).

The (IPT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to investor education. Since 1993, the Investor Protection Trust has worked at the state and national level to provide independent, objective investor education to help people make informed decisions. The Trust received funds over a five year period beginning in 2003 for distribution to the states for investor education as part of global multistate and federal settlement involving undue influence of investment banking interests on securities research at brokerage firms. The Commission entered orders against dealers including Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc. formerly Salomon Smith Barney Inc., Lehman Brothers Inc., Goldman, Sacks Inc., Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and UBS Warburg LLC/UBS PaineWebber Inc. The Commission's actions in addition to imposing penalties of \$4 million to the State of Arizona, required these firms to pay into the IPT. The Commission received a \$163,500 three year grant from the IPT in 2005 and a \$300,000 two-year grant in 2008.